Church Life

Vol. 5. MARCH, 1908. No. 3.

THE PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends:

The Baptist Hospital is almost under the shadow of our church. It is a noble institution. Its superintendent, Mr. Joseph Purvis, and his wife are members with us. The hospital deserves well of us. Recently Mr. Charles H. Mrashall, the president of our Board of Trustees, was elected to the presidency of the Board of Directors of the hospital. This fact should intensify our interest in this institution. We all know that Mr. Marshall is "the right man for the place." But he needs the substantial backing of our church and its membership—to the extent of—say at least $500 this year. That would look well hung up as a motto somewhere, in the Sunday School, or Ladies' Benevolent room, or Christian Endeavor Society or church, or all together, "$500 in 1908 for our Hospital."

It has been a great pleasure for us to meet recently, and to hear speak, two of the members of our church who are engaged in foreign missionary service, Dr. Walter Rittenhouse of Nam Kham, Burmah, and Dr. Catherine Mabie of Banza, Mantake, Africa. Dr. Rittenhouse was present and gave an address at the Missionary Conference of the Baptist Churches of the South Side, held in our auditorium on the 26th of last month. We have been reading his letters in CHURCH LIFE with delight and interest, and it was a privilege for us to greet him face to face once more. I had been Dr. Catherine Mabie's pastor for more than four years, but had never met her until last spring, and then not in Chicago, but in China. She and her uncle. Dr. H. C. Mabie, were members of our house boat party on the Chinese canals. Her address at the prayer meeting a week ago was much appreciated. She will remain in the United States for some time before returning to her chosen field of labor.

The second great social of the year was a notable occasion. The weather had been most disagreeable all through the day and in the evening the ladies were lamenting their elaborate preparations, and wondering what they should do with the piles of unused provisions. Why, it looked as if we would not have a corporal's guard. People began to come, however, and kept on coming, and kept on coming, until 300 or more were assembled. The problem of the consumption of eatables and drinkables did not cause much anxiety after that, except that here and there some of the "providers" feared there might not be quite enough to "go around."

Mr. Clifford Williams said it was "the greatest thing that has happened in the church in ten years." tI was a genuine "social." Everybody felt that way and everybody acted that way. Everybody welcomed everybody else. And it was a thoroughly mixed crowd, old, middle-aged and young. May many more such gatherings follow! And they will!

The Ladies' Aid are already beginning to plan for a big church reception and conversatzione some time in April.

A stretch of five years doesn't look long when one looks back, at least not just at first, but when I remember what a complete stranger I was to all of you a little more than five years ago, and then when I think of all the events, sad and joyful, that have been crowded into that period, and then when I look about me and realize how great a body of true friends and loyal supporters and noble helpers I have in this dear old church, I can hardly realize that it has only been five years since I knew you first. The bonds that bind us together strengthen and become more sacred as times moves on. I have been with so many of you in seasons of peculiar joy and with so many others of you in days of heart-breaking sorrow. Then, in such a number of instances help or counsel has been asked. Nearly three hundred and fifty of you, now members of the church, I have welcomed into fellowship.

Itis a great joy to me to know that in all these five years we have spent together not a hard or harsh or angry word has passed between any member of this church and its pastor and no less a joy to realize that I can rely upon your steadfast and undeviating and hearty support in all my plans and efforts in behalf of our beloved church. May God's most gracious blessing rest richly upon you, every one!

Your affectionate pastor,

AUSTEN K. DE BLOIS.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND SOCIETIES.

THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

During the short, sharp month of February our society has not been idle. How can we be, when our president is a native Chicagoan, who not only lives up to the motto *"I Will,"* but with all the force and energy with which she is imbued by nature, she leads the rest of us on to accomplish the various plans for work, pleasure and not the least of all the raising of money to carry out schemes for the general welfare of the church and society. We have had a remarkably good attendance throughout the month in spite of weather of all kinds; a blizzard of two days' duration, and walking made most difficult for man and beast, but vastly more so for women. Yet we have got there and been blessed in the going. Many hands make light work says the old proverb and the active cutting committee, the unlailing quilt committee, the committee on new garments, as well as the committee on cast-off garments, have kept us busy indeed. We feel that the dear women of our church and congregation who do not make the effort to meet with and help us lose a great deal of very genuine fellowship, as well as the opportunity of getting better acquainted with each other. We talk over our plans and new suggestions are always so cordially entertained by our executive committee that we sincerely hope you will make an effort to come out with a genuine good will to help us in our good work. Mrs. Tolman entertained our society in the most gracious and hospitable manner at an embroidery tea during January at her pleasant home. She was aided by her daughter, Mrs. Davidson, who helped to make it an exceedingly pleasant afternoon for those who braved the wintry blast.

Our finances are in much better condition since "The Surprise Evening" at Mrs. Williams', where so many novel and pleasing things were offered for our entertainment, at which the sum of $103.16 was realized—but, better still, it was proven that we really "are but children of a larger growth," as the older people entered into the "surprises" with fully as much zest as the younger generation. With part of the proceeds we will replenish our china closet, thereby filling a long felt want. An excellent "hat water heater" has already been installed, this being another long felt want. We are particularly glad to have them at this time, as March is now upon us and on the tenth we expect to entertain the Missionary Union, when we are assured that at least five hundred of our sister women from the other churches of our denomination will meet with us for an all-day session, to cheer our hearts with the news of what has been done in the past and to plan what shall be done in the future by this great body of women who work together in *Faith* and *Prayer* for the Lord and His Kingdom on earth. We earnestly hope the women of our own church will come out in force if not to help in the entertainment to listen to the speakers and give us the sweet encouragement of their presence in our midst.

Another matter not to be overlooked is that March is the month our church is expected to help out with household supplies for the Baptist Hospital. Groceries, delicacies, fruits, dried and fresh, single sheets, pillow cases, towels and other comfortable and comforting things will be most acceptable. Our president is most anxious that we make a special effort this month in this direction and if every woman in the church will help it will not be a difficult matter. "So long as we love we serve."

WOMAN'S MISSION CIRCLE.

MRS. S. B. LINGLE.

The annual meeting of the Woman's Mission Circle was held on February 14. This was the day chosen by the W. B. F. M. Society as a day of prayer for the work in foreign lands. In harmony with this thought the devotional exercises were emphasized and earnest prayer offered for the work among women and children of heathen lands.

The reports given showed that ninety-eight contributors have given to the work of the Woman's Home and Foreign Society, through our circle, and that we still lack about sixty dollars of our apportionment of three hundred and fifty dollars to each society for this year's work.

If every woman and girl in our membership would make some sacrifice for our less fortunate sisters and send in an offering during the month it would still be possible to reach the sum hoped for.

It was a pleasure to have with us at the meeting the foreign secretary of the Woman's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of the West, Miss Loveridge. In a most interesting way she introduced us to the fifty-five young women now representing this society in Burmah, Assam, India, the Philippines, Japan, China and Africa. Her presentation gave us a new desire to sustain these consecrated workers.

A letter from Mrs. Donnelley told of experience in India and proved that the home church is not forgotten in her long absence. We always enjoy Miss Pickett's report of the Chinese Mission at this meeting and we are impressed with the direct bearing of the city mission work upon the great empire itself, so many of the converts here carrying back the glad tidings to their home land.

We were indebted to Mrs. Loomis for a solo which was much enjoyed. The nominating committee reported no change in the officers of the society. The head of the committees being as follows:

Program Committee—Mrs. H. F. Googins.
Music Committee—Mrs. C. H. Marshall.
Reception Committee—Mrs. L. H. Smith.
Social Committee—Mrs. H. H. Chandler.
Ways and Means Committee—Mrs. J. S. McCullough.

Library Committee—Miss E. Goodman, Miss M. Green.

Although the inclement weather somewhat decreased our numbers the social, presided over by Mrs. Chandler and her committee, was greatly enjoyed.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR.

At our missionary meeting of January 26 Miss Frances M. Schuyler of the Woman's Baptist Missionary Union spoke to us concerning the work of the women among the Indians. On the evening of March 1 Dr. Walter Rittenhouse, recently returned from Namkham, Burma, related his experiences during his work among the Burmese.

For the past two months our mission study class on immigration, studying "Aliens or Americans?" by Dr. Grose, has been very successfully led by Mr. Kennan. We have met Monday evenings at the homes of different members of the class, and have secured an average attendance of fourteen. The course, which will be completed with one more lesson, has been interesting and profitable indeed.

It is with deep regret that we record the resignation of Mr. Foster as secretary. His efforts at Raymond Mission made necessary his resignation and Miss Bucklin succeeds him as secretary.

Friday evening, February 28, at our monthly social, held in the parlors of the church, we were favored by Mr. Waldron, who gave several readings and by Miss Helen Todd with selections on the piano. The games prepared by our social committee were greatly enjoyed by all.

Let every one save the date of Friday, March 27. On that evening there will be held in the parlors a South Division C. E. Union Social, the first event of the kind, to which are invited all members of the twenty-four different societies composing the division. An excellent program has been arranged by the officers of the division and a large and enthusiastic crowd is expected and will be provided for. Further announcements in the church calendar.

ROBERT C. LELAND, Dept. Editor.

AMORET HENSON GUILD.

The regular meeting of the guild was held February 24. After a chafing dish supper we listened to a program which was short and sweet. Miss Maribel Tucker, accompanied by Miss Helen Todd, sang four delightful solos, and Mrs. Atwell, whom we always like to hear, read several humorous selections. All those who had taken tickets to sell for the guild entertainment were asked to report, but as they have not all done so we can not tell exactly what was made, but think we cleared at least $75. The entertainment was a success socially, as well as financially. It was attended by a large and appreciative audience. Much credit is due those who were in charge of the pictures and music and also those who provided the refreshments during the intermission. We thank all who helped to make the entertainment a success.

FLORENCE RAYMOND,
Department Editor.

REPORT OF THE CHORAL CLUB.

Since the last report of the club was made, January 1, 1908, there has been a change in the directorship of the club. On January 25 Prof. C. A. Havens was elected to succeed Dr. Williams as director of the club. Two of the officers have recently resigned; namely, Mr. Samuel Lingle (succeeded by Mr. Baird as librarian) and Mr. Robert Leland, treasurer, whose office has not yet been filled. There is now a membership of thirty-six, which makes a decrease of five from January 1, with an average attendance of twenty-five at the meetings, a decrease of three. It is hoped that the coming month will bring new members and better results to the club.

HATTIE TODD, Secretary.

AN INTERESTING NOTE.

To the Superintendent of the First Baptist Sunday School:

Dear Sir—The writer, attending service last Lord's day, met two young lads about 12 years old coming from your Sunday School, one of them opened a paper, glanced at it and threw it down. The writer addressed a few kind words of reproval to the boy and picked it up. He has found pleasure in reading several of the articles going down town on the car in the mornings and thinks so much of the reading that he desires through you to say to the boys: "Don't throw away your papers, but read them. Papers which contain so much good, which cost love and money to buy, and which thousands of boys and girls can not get, though they would like them!" It shows a heart untouched by the words of the teacher and superintendent, a lesson unlearned which has taken perhaps many a sacrifice to prepare.

Yours in the service,
(Not a young man, but going onto 70.)

PERSONALS.

Mrs. W. W. Everts continues to be poorly and her many friends in the church deeply sympathize with her in her prolonged illness.

It seemed good to see two of our members with us again who have been working on the mission fields. Rev. Walter Rittenhouse from Burmah and Dr. Catherine L. Mabie from Banza, Mantake, Africa.

Our pastor recently addressed the Chicago Underwriters' Association at their annual banquet at the Auditorium, speaking on "Our Trade Relations with the Orient."

Mrs. T. G. McLaury and her son, Mr. Walker McLaury left last week for Bermuda. From

there they will probably go farther South, making quite an extended tour in South America.

Ethelbert W. Peek and Miss Josephine Hansen were married February 28 at the home of the bride's mother in Groveland Park, Dr. De Blois officiating. Mr. Peek is a son of the late W. H. Peek, who was, for nearly half a century a member of the First Baptist Church.

Rev. M. P. Boynton, pastor of Lexington Avenue Church, speaking at the mission conference in our church recently expressed himself very forcibly as to the inspiration derived from listening to addresses by our pastor regarding the foreign mission question. He delivered himself about as follows:

"We can not over-estimate the amount of good that is done by so eloquent and statesmanlike a presentation of the needs and conditions in the Orient as the pastor of this church has been making from time to time during the past few months. I heard him give five addresses on as many different occasions, all important gatherings and he gave the people something entirely new and fresh each time; not even a single illustration was repeated in any of those five great addresses."

ADDITIONS TO CHURCH.

December, 1907, to March, 1908.

By Baptism:

Miss Grace E. Douglas, 2532 Indiana avenue.
Mrs. Caroline Ann Ellison.
Joseph Purvis, Mrs. Joseph Purvis (Bessie M.), Chicago Baptist Hospital.
Elsie E. Boetter, 3220 Prairie avenue.
Elmer B Richey, 3116 Lake Park avenue.
Jerome Kochersperger, 3431 South Park avenue.
Perry A. H. Trude, 3229 South Park avenue.
Leonard R. Fleckenstein, 5213 Fifth avenue.

By Letter:

Edward B. Waldron, 5605 Drexel avenue.
E. Lewis Kelley, 41 Bryant avenue.
Mrs. E. L. Kelley (Mary B.), 41 Bryant avenue.
Miss Vera F. Holmes, 5332 Drexel avenue.
Florence E. Heath, Michel Rees Hospital.
Miss Alice M. Carter, 2411 Indiana avenue.

DIMINUTIONS.

December, 1907, to March 1, 1908.

Letters Granted:

William M. Dodds.
Miss Laura Dresser.
James Flaws.
Miss Cora B. Kimball.
Clarence F. Helmrich.
John W. Fogg.
Miss Mabel Coash.
Levi E. Miller.
Mrs. L. E. Miller.

Dropped:

George Piercey.
J. W. Hunt.
Mrs. J. H. Hunt.
Mrs. Nellie G. Critchley.
Mrs. Belle Buehlow.
Henry Gregory.
Mrs. Ada C. Hillman.
Archibald E. Minard.
James Moleshead.
Albert Lantz.
Mrs. C. H. Dodge.
Miss Esther E. Wingreen.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES.

Hall, Mrs. Sarah H., 6509 Peoria St.
Lyman, Miss Stella, 3228 Calumet Ave.
Pennington, David H., 99 Loomis St.
Stowell, Miss Elizabeth G., 3232 Calumet.
Spinney, Edmund C., 3526 Grand Boul.
Spinney, Mrs. E. C., 3526 Grand Boul.
Spinney, Miss Blanche G., 3526 Grand Boul.
Rittenhouse, Rev. Walter, 10 Woodland Park.

IMMORTAL LOVE.

Our God does not repent him of his gifts.
Friend he has made for friend; and each to each
Has given growing love, until the ties
That bind them to each other and to God
Are numberless and most divinely good.
And when one friend departs and one doth stay,
Death comes not all these sacred ties to break
For *that* death cannot do. Love still lives on;
The lover here defies both space and time;
No less doth that one gone beyond the veil.
Whatever change may come, he changes not
To something that forgets and loves no more,
Nay, all the new that claims the raptured soul
Shall but the old confirm and glorify.
These friends of ours and God's, he keeps awhile
Until our day shall come. Then kindly Death
Shall give us back the same true hand and voice,
The face so sweet and strong, so pure and free.
They shall be glad as we to meet again;
And nearer fellowship than earth's shall come
As through heaven's ways they lead our eager feet.
And help us with their eyes to see our Lord.
How short will then the time of absence seem!
How small the price for this enrichment great!
And since our sorrow has been turned to joy,
We shall give thanks for every purging fire
That taught us how to *love our friends in God*,
And make their love as sure as heaven.

—*S. G. Barnes.*

The Raymond Girls' Choir has now been giving two special pieces of music every Sunday evening since its organization last August. They are doing such fine work that we feel it due them to give their names below: Esther Caldwell, Ruth Edling, Madeline Bender, Eliza Shultz, Ida Roeder, Marie Roeder, Cornelia Buehlow, Sylvia Buehlow, Amelia Lange, Mamie Harneck, Barbara Thomas and Anna Hackendahl.

"THE UNVEILING OF THE ORIENT."

Beginning on March 15 Dr. de Blois will give a special series of Sunday evening addresses on his wonderful world-tour.

He has studied every subject to be presented, with great care. He will tell the story of those strange lands and peoples whose present unparalleled awakening is startling humanity.

The fleet is now in the Pacific. On the Pacific the battles of the future will be waged. All eyes are turned to-day toward "The Sunrise Nations."

DR. DE BLOIS' THEMES WILL BE:

1, March 15, "Hawaii; An Island Paradise."
2, March 22, "Japan; The Little Giants of the East."
3, March 29, "Korea; Odd Types of Humanity."
4, April .5, "Manchuria; Wierd Land of Sombre Distances."
5, April 12, "China; The Great World-Nation of the Future."
6, April 19, "Malaysia; The Equator and Ocean Cross Roads."
7, April 26, "Ceylon; Where Spicy Breezes Blow."
8, May 3, "India; Lordly Shrines and Mystic Splendors."

Come!
Tell your friends!
Admission is free.
All seats are free.
A fine musical programme each evening.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Receipts from weekly envelopes for January and February, 1908:

Env. No.	Cur. Ex.	Benev.
1	.....	.....
3	70	.....
5	45	15
7	80	40
9	30	.....
11	50	.....
13	1 15	45
15	5	5
17	35	35
19	80	40
21	.....	.....
23	24	17
25	.....	60
27	.....	50
29	1 00	.....
31	.....	.....
33	80	.....
35	45	35
37	50	.....
39	1 15	60
41	30	1
43	1 50	60
45	45	.....
47	1 75	.....
49	2 00	80
51	.....	.....
53	60	15
55	50	.....
57	.....	.....
59	1 75	.....
61	.....	.....
63	36	36
65	5	5
67	5 00	2 00
69	20	5
71	80	75
73	.....	.....
75	45	15
77	1 25	.....
79	2 00	6 00
81	40	.....
83	80	1 60
85	1 50	30
87	30	30
89	16	.....
91	1 75	1 75
93	3 00	60
95	2 00	2 00
97	15	25
99	35	35
101	70	35
103	.....	.....
105	.....	.....
107	50	25
109	20	25
111	80	40
113	2 00	80
115	1 00	1 00
117	2 00	2 00
119	60	.....
121	.....	.....
123	.....	.....
125	50	50
127	1 25	75
129	2 00	4 00
131	80	40

Env. No.	Cur. Ex.	Benev.
2	$ 75	$ 50
4	65	35
6	75	25
8	70	35
10	30	30
12	1 65	50
14	35	.....
16	35	35
18	.....	.....
20	50	5
22	20 00	.....
24	.....	15
26	.....	80
28	1 00	81
30	2 00	2 00
32	.....	.....
34	1 60	40
36	.....	.....
38	15	15
40	2 00	40
42	60	60
44	.....	85
46	3 00	.....
48	4 80	80
50	24	16
52	35	35
54	20	10
56	2 80	4 00
58	80	80
60	.....	.....
62	1 25	1 25
64	70	.....
66	2 50	2 50
68	1 40	10
70	1 30	45
72	1 00	60
74	20	20
76	80	.....
78	30	.....
80	.....	.....
82	2 00	.....
84	80	.....
86	1 00	2 00
88	4 00	2 00
90	14	.....
92	3 00	1 75
94	2 00	2 00
96	75	1 35
98	1 20	80
100	35	35
102	1 80	1 20
104	25	.....
106	1 00	.....
108	60	30
110	95	35
112	60	40
114	3 00	40
116	45	35
118	.....	.....
120	1 50	30
122	2 00	10
124	41	40
126	2 35	2 35
128	1 00	.....
130	80	40
132	10 50	3 00

Env. No.	Cur. Ex.	Benev.
133	60	.....
135	35	35
137	60	10
139	40	40
141	8 00	.....
143	75	30
145	80	.....
147	95	2 55
149	1 75	1 50
151	25	25
153	2 00	40
155	10 00	.....
157	35	35
159	2 75	2 00
161	10	.....
163	1 85	60
165	80	80
167	40	.....
169	80	1 20
171	2 00	40
173	55	11
175	1 20	1 40
177	90	60
179	50	50
181	40	40
183	35	.....
185	3 50	1 75
187	25	5
189	2 00	40
191	60	40
193	20	20
195	.....	.....
197	1 10	4 00
199	1 20	80
201	1 75	.....
203	.....	.....
...	76 00	40 00
205	2 00	5 00
206	.....	.....
208	2 00	2 00
210	40	.....
212	2 00	2 00
214	.....	.....
216	80	80
218	1 75	1 55
220	80	80
222	1 25	45
224	4 00	2 00
226	2 00	.....
228	4 00	.....
230	50	.....
232	80	.....
234	75	20
236	4 00	2 00
238	10	.....
240	60	40
242	.....	.....
244	1 80	55
246	1 10	.....
248	1 75	1 75
250	3 00	.....
252	.....	.....
254	.....	.....
255	15	.....
257	1 00	20
259	40	80
261	30	30
263	.....	.....
265	2 00	.....
...	25 00	.....

Env. No.	Cur. Ex.	Benev.
134	1 75	1 25
136	25	.....
138	40	.....
140	80	80
142	4 00	.....
144	2 00	.....
146	1 50	1 50
148	.....	.....
150	1 75	25
152	50	10
154	10	10
156	24 00	8 00
158	90	15
160	75	50
162	15	15
164	33	.....
166	15	.....
168	18	.....
170	1 00	1 00
172	3 20	80
174	80	80
176	5 25	1 75
178	2 00	2 00
180	23	19
182	35	.....
184	20	.....
186	2 00	.....
188	1 25	50
190	15	.....
192	25	25
194	1 00	40
196	1 50	.....
198	.....	.....
200	1 20	80
202	70	.....
204	85	85
...	5 00	1 00
...	.....	15 00
207	80	80
209	1 75	.....
211	25	25
213	1 00	.....
215	2 00	1 25
217	30	30
219	.....	.....
221	.....	.....
223	1 60	40
225	2 00	.....
227	60	.....
229	2 00	.....
231	80	.....
233	35	.....
235	.....	.....
237	4 00	2 00
239	50	20
241	30	30
243	10	.....
245	20	20
247	80	.....
249	2 00	.....
251	4 00	.....
253	35	35
...	2 50	2 50
256	60	.....
258	20 00	.....
260	.....	.....
262	.....	.....
264	.....	.....
266	8 00	4 00
...	4 00	.....

Total for January and February, 1908, current expenses $465.89; benevolence, $206.01.

It costs $240 per week to run our church.

RECEIPTS FOR WEEK.

Pew rents	$77 00	
Weekly Env. for Current Ex.	60 00	
Basket Collections	16 50	$153 50
Shortage per week		86 50
Total		$240 00

There are sixty persons who had weekly envelopes last year who have not as yet taken them for this year

RAYMOND NOTES.

The Sunday School attendance at Raymond is rapidly nearing the 200 mark.

Raymond's Junior C. E. has more than doubled its attendance in the last two months.

Mr. C. M. Stoddard, from Litchfield, Mich., made a visit lately to his brother and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs.

Miss Lela Minnich has returned home from Herscher, where she has been spending five weeks visiting friends.

The Ladies' Aid Society of Raymond gave Mrs. Olsen a surprise February 27. All reported a very pleasant day.

Rev. Foster took charge of the missionary meeting of the Raymond C. E. Society, February 23. His address was enjoyed by all.

February 6 the ladies of Raymond gave Mrs. Wireman a pleasant surprise, bringing their dinners and staying all day. They believe that all work and no play makes Gill a dull girl.

Mrs. Gibbs has started a boys' choir at Raymond. They sang their first piece Sunday evening, March 1. They did themselves credit and will hustle the girls' choir when they have had more training.

February 16 Rev. E. Lewis Kelly preached at Raymond Chapel. The sermon was clear cut, interesting and delivered in a forcible manner. Every one seemed pleased and would enjoy hearing him again.

We are glad to report that Miss Eva McIntyre, who has been very sick for over two months, is so far recovered as to be brought home. Now is the time that a call from all her friends will be appreciated.

Tuesday evening, February 25, Rev. S. A. Cornwell gave his illustrated lecture, "The Man of Galilee," at Raymond Chapel to a large and appreciative audience. After the entertainment refreshments were served in the ladies' parlor. It proved an evening of enjoyment and profit to all.

The Raymond Boys' Club gave an entertainment the 22d of February to a full house. Mr. Fred Hetsel, the physical trainer, did himself great credit in displaying some of his gymnasium ability. If he succeeds in getting our boys to do as well I am sure we will be very proud of them.

February 29 was the occasion of a very pleasant surprise at 5519 Green street. The occasion was a surprise on Mr. Claude Christello by about forty of his young friends. In every way it was a success which was only what was expected by all when the genial gentleman, Mr. Sidney Crosier, acted as host.

On the morning of Saturday, February 14, Miss Sarah Caldwell left this world of sorrow and suffering for the home not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. The services were held at the home of her cousin, Mr. Samuel Caldwell, 3084 Lyman street, Sunday, February 15, at 2 p. m., Rev. W. Thurston Gibbs officiating. Interment was made at Oakwood Cemetery. She had only been in America eight months, but had endeared herself to all who knew her. Besides the cousins here with whom she made her home she leaves in the home land to mourn the separation a father, mother, five brothers and a sister. God has been kind to her in taking her home and has given one more tie to those left behind to bind them to the home above.

THE CURTAIN FALLS.

Over the sorrow, and over the bliss,
Over the teardrop, over the kiss,
Over the crimes that blotted and blurred
Over the wound of an angry word,
Over the deeds in a weakness done,
Over the battles lost and won,
Now at the end of the flying year
(Year that to-morrow will not be here),
Over our freedom, over our thralls,
In the dark and the midnight—the curtain falls.

Over our gain, and over our loss,
Over our crown, and over our cross,
Over the fret of our discontent,
Over the ill that was never meant,
Over the scars of our self-denial,
Over the strength that conquered trial—
Now in the end of the flying year,
Year that to-morrow will not be here,
Quietly final, the prompter calls;
Over it swiftly the curtain falls.

Over the crowds and the solitudes,
Over our shifting, hurrying moods,
Over the hearts where bright flames leap,
Over the cribs where the babies sleep,
Over the clamor, over the strife,
Over the pageantry of life—
Now in the end of the flying year
Year that to-morrow will not be here,
Swiftly and surely from starry walls,
Silently downward the curtain falls.

Church Life

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Prompt payments of subscriptions to the CHURCH LIFE will be much appreciated and will help to make the wheels run smoothly.

Pews or sitings in the church may be obtained from the pew committee, Messrs R. B. Twiss, Webster Tomlinson and E. L. Roy at the close of any church service. Diagram will be found near the door.

It is the plan of the Editor to give a receipt to every subscriber to CHURCH LIFE for payments made, and if such payments are not thus acknowledged within a reasonable time subscribers will confer a favor by notifying the Editor of the fact. Money sometimes gets lost in the mails or otherwise and a little prompt attention at the time will obviate differences of opinion at a later date. Kindly notice also the date to which you are credited on the receipt and have it corrected if wrong.

JOURNAL OF THE CHURCH.

February 2, Sunday—Preaching by the pastor. Topics, "The Face in the Mirror" and "The Escape from Judgment." Baptism in the morning.

February 3, Monday—Teachers' Training Class, led by Mrs. D. B. Wells. Mission Class at the home of Miss Pickett, led by Mr. Kennan. Meeting of pastor's aids.

February 4, Tuesday—Open meeting of the Men's League. Program of addresses and music.

February 5, Wednesday—Missionary meeting, "Central and Western China," "The Open Door and Baptist Opportunity."

February 7, Friday—Woman's Benevolent Society, regular meeting.

February 8, Saturday—Choral Club, regular meeting.

February 9, Sunday—Sermons by the pastor. Topics, "The Search for a Savior" and "The Glory of the Christian Life." Baptism in the morning.

February 10, Monday—Teachers' Training Class, led by Mrs. D. B. Wells. Mission Study Class, led by Mr. Kennan.

February 12, Wednesday—Church prayer meeting. Topic, "Lessons from the Life of Jonah."

February 13, Thursday—"An Evening of Surprises," at the home of Mrs. Clifford Williams.

February 14, Friday—The Women's Mission Circle held its annual meeting. Reports of the years' work. Address by Miss Loveridge, secretary of the W. B. F. M. S. of the West.

February 15—Choral Club meeting.

February 16, Sunday—Preaching by Pastor de Blois. Topics, "An American Gospel" and "Chicago, the City Without Law." Baptism in the morning.

February 17, Monday—Teachers' Training Class, led by Mrs. D. B. Wells. C. E. Mission Study Class, led by Mr. Kennan.

February 19, Wednesday—Missionary conference under the auspices of the A. B. M. U. Doctors Eubank, Mabie, Applegarth and Rittenhouse gave addresses.

February 21, Friday—Woman's Benevolent Society, regular meeting. Entertainment by the Amoret Henson Guild, picture tableaux posed by Mrs. Abbie Birdsall Phillips.

February 22, Saturday—Meeting of the Choral Club.

February 23, Sunday—Sermons by Dr. de Blois. Topics, "Struggle and Survival" and "With Uplifted Eyes."

February 24, Monday — Amoret Henson Guild, monthly meeting. Supper and social. C. E. Mission Study Class.

February 26, Wednesday—Church prayer meeting. Covenant meeting. Address by Dr. Catherine L. Mabie of Banza Manteke, Africa.

February 27, Thursday—S. S. Teachers' meeting, led by Mr. Kennan.

February 28, Friday—Christian Endeavor monthly social.

February 29—Meeting of Choral Club.

CHICAGO BAPTIST NEWS.

A. R. E. WYANT, Editor.

852 So. Central Park Ave.

DEDICATION OF NORMAL PARK CHURCH.

The new church auditorium was dedicated February 9. The perfect day, the three impressive services, the ready pledges covering the entire deficit—all combined to make a notable memory for everyone interested in the church. Dr. Judson B. Thomas preached the dedicatory sermon from II. Chron., 5:14, "The glory of Jehovah filled the house of God." The discourse was able, suggestive and pertinent to the occasion. Directly following a statement for the building committee made by its chairman, Mr. T. W. Witwer, a blackboard was produced and pledges for the deficit called for. The amount needed was $16,600. The response was hearty, adequate, joyful. If the sermon had been eloquent of exalted spiritual truth and its practical application by the preacher, these pledges were eloquent of generous giving and noble sacrifice by the people. At the close of the last service the pledges aggregated $17,113.65 to be fully redeemed at the end of three years, one-third to be paid each year.

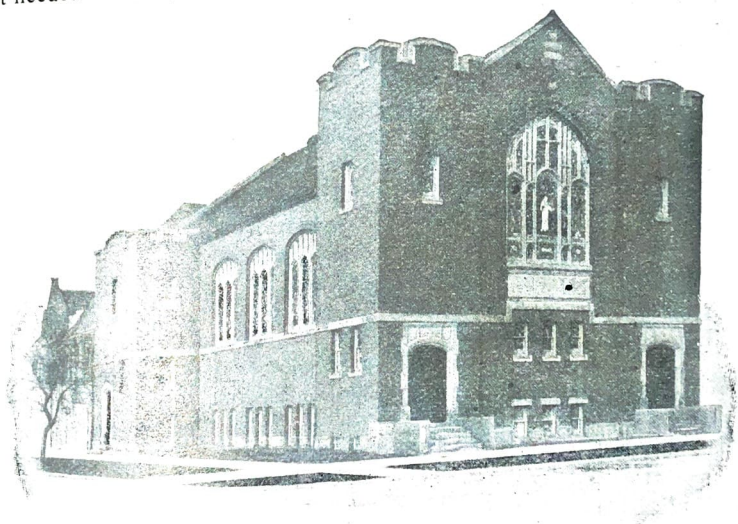
The large audience at the fellowship meeting in the afternoon was composed largely of members from neighboring churches. The two addresses were of marked interest and closely held the attention of the people. Dr. W. O. Sheppard of the First M. E. Church spoke upon "The Value of the Church." Dr. Smith T. Ford of the Englewood Baptist Church took for his theme, "The Church of To-Day."

At the evening service the address was given by Dr. George T. Webb. His subject was "The New Covenant." Following this the pastor, Rev. Frank Leonard Anderson, offered the prayer of dedication.

On Tuesday evening, February 11, the Englewood District B. Y. P. U. were served to supper in the new dining room and afterward repaired to the auditorium to hear an address by Dr. W. H. Main of Philadelphia on "Enlargement."

On Wednesday evening there was a reminiscence service. Events of interest in the past history of the church were recalled. It was organized with thirty-seven members on January 3, 1886, and recognized by a special council of Baptist churches on June 4, 1886. Rev. W. P. Elsdon preaching the sermon. The church services were held at first in Shay's Hall, but later were removed to Thornton Hall. On March 21, 1887, a church meeting was held which authorized the trustees to purchase the present lot, 90x135 feet, corner of Seventieth street and Stewart avenue for $2,250. December 30, 1888 the dedication of the new chapel occurred, Rev. H. S. Taylor, pastor. The dedicatory sermon was preached by Rev. P. S. Henson. The succeeding pastors have been Revs. W. B. Matteson, H. L. Vosberg, A. W. Runyon, Leander Turney and F. L. Anderson.

The building committee for the erection of the present structure was appointed June 28, 1905. Their plan was adopted by the church November 7, 1906, and they were authorized



THE NORMAL PARK BAPTIST CHURCH.

to spend $30,000 for the erection of a new building, this sum not to include the cost of a pipe organ. Ground was broken December 6, 1906, and the corner stone was laid by Father J. W. Shays and Father H. H. Gray, on Sunday December 23, 1906. The property as it stands at present is valued at something over $45,000.

Thursday evening occurred the last regular service of dedication week. Dr. O. A. Williams of Lincoln, Neb., preaching the sermon.

The building committee deserves and has the gratitude of the entire church for the successful completion of our building so far within the cost allowed them.

The committee on decoration is to be commended for its taste in choice of colors and decorative design for the various rooms. The auditorium presents a rich simplicity of design with a restrained and harmonious coloring which marks it as a classic in decorative art. The memorial window which was the gift of Mr. Fred A. Wells, is the glory of the East End. The pulpit furniture, which was the gift of Mrs. Rice's class of young ladies, is ample and rich, the pulpit alone costing $100.

All the music of dedication week, the chorus work of the choir, the vocal solos by Mr. Clissold, Mrs. Laura Crossman-Schell and Miss Davis, and the organ solos by Mrs. Huyck were of an exceptionally high order and gave a grateful touch of artistic beauty to every service.

AMONG THE CHURCHES.

Second.—Dr. MacLaurin has been preaching an interesting series of sermons on "Four Kinds of Hearts": (1) "The Heart that is Robbed." (2) "The Heart that Starves." (3) "The Heart that Chokes." (4) "The Heart that Receives." During January, evangelistic meetings were held and forty-nine new members were received by letter, baptism and experience. At the February communion, forty-five received the hand of fellowship, twenty coming from the Western Avenue Church. Dur- the first four months of the present pastorate 101 new members have been received. During the past month the evangelistic meetings have been held at the Morgan Street branch.

Irving Park.—The church has been conducting a gracious revival with the assistance of Evangelist Morrill. Pastor Bancroft has baptized about twenty-five.

Immanuel.—The church has been serving free breakfasts to thousands of homeless, hungry men. They have consumed about 10,000 loaves of bread, 300 pounds of coffee, 800 pounds of butter and 400 pounds of sugar. The meal is followed by a brief religious service, and the men are dealt with individually as far as possible. It is a most commendable church service.

Englewood.—Dr. Ford recently completed three years of his pastorate here. During this time, 420 persons have united with the church and over $61,000 has been contributed for various purposes. During the past year 121 persons have joined the church and $24,000 been raised for the church and missions. The evangelistic work of the church is made prominent and the congregations are large.

Morgan Park.—Pastor Chalmers baptized about a dozen from the Sunday School during the past month.

Grace.—Pastor Snashall began his tenth year of pastoral service with this church on February 9. During this time the membership has more than doubled and the property is now worth $18,000. A series of successful revival meetings have been in progress.

Humboldt Park.—Nine new members received the hand of fellowship at the February communion. Miss Hallie L. Carter has been engaged as pastor's assistant and is doing splendid work.

LaSalle Avenue.—Evangelistic meetings have been held with good results during the past month. Pastor Boynton assisted.

Messiah.—The re-dedicatory services of the church improvement were held on February 2. Dr. MacLaurin preached the dedicatory sermon on Sunday afternoon. A total of $4,750 was pledged to cover the cost of remodeling the building. The present value of the property is about $16,000. The church was organized in 1890 with ninety-one members. Under the leadership of Pastor Parsons the church will make its influence felt in its vicinity.

Hyde Park.—A beautiful memorial window, representing Paul preaching at Athens, has been placed in the church, honoring Dr. J. B. Jackson, a former pastor. A fine memorial of Dr. Harper will also soon be unveiled in the church.

Belden Avenue.—Advertising cards have been placed in the elevated trains which read: "Don't Read This—if you don't want to know a good thing. Live Talks on Live Subjects by a Live

Man," John A. Earl, D. D. The pastor also contains the Scotch visage of the pastor.

Galilee.—During December and January fifteen were received by baptism. During the past month revival meetings have been held under the leadership of Evangelist Morrill. Over thirty have been baptized and a number have been received by letter. Pastor Hensboro is much encouraged by the work.

Memorial.—The pulpit made vacant by the resignation of Dr. E. P. Tuller is still vacant. Dr. E. B. Andrews preached on February 23. He also addressed the Ministers' Conference on the following Monday morning.

Roseland.—Pastor Barkman has resigned to take up chapel car work in Colorado, March 1. Three weeks of meetings were held during January. On the first Sunday of February two received the hand of fellowship and about a dozen have since been baptized. He has done a good work here.

Ravenswood.—Pastor and Mrs. Corey were given a farewell reception by the church previous to his departure for Fremont, Neb. They received tokens of appreciation from the church. A sad feature is that on account of ill-health Mrs. Corey will go to a sanitarium in Chicago for at least four months. Rev. W. D. Kies, who lived here, has been called as pastor of the Baptist Church at Chattsworth, Ill.

Pilgrim Temple.—Dr. Thoms is preaching a very interesting series of sermons on Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress." The Pilgrim Temple Brotherhood recently had the pleasure of listening to a stirring address by Judge Cleland.

Oak Park.—Six received the hand of fellowship at the February communion, among whom were Dr. and Mrs. Behan.

First Church.—During the past year ninety new members were added, the largest number during any year of the present pastorate. Twenty-seven were baptized from the Sunday School after careful training. Miss Van Fleet has resigned as church visitor. Total disbursements for the year, $15,559.

Berwyn.—At the roll call meeting, February 12, 121 members were present and fifty-five responded by letter, out of a total of 224 members.

Maywood.—Rev. J. W. Harnley has accepted a call to this church and began his work February 15. One of the conditions of the call is that the church shall begin the erection of a new building at once.

Evanston.—The church will observe its fiftieth anniversary April 19 to 26, with a series of addresses by noted speakers. The church spent $9,000 the past year in remodeling the building.

PERSONALS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST.

The death of Mrs. J. H. Gates of the Second Church has recently turned over to the Baptist Theological Union the sum of $10,000 constituting the James H. Gates Memorial Fund, the interest of which is used annually as designated for the assistance of worthy young men preparing for the ministry at the Divinity School.

Mr. Henry C. Dirks, a prominent member of the La Grange Baptist Church for eighteen years, died recently at the age of 58.

Dr. C. Herman Barlow, who received his medical education at the University of Michigan, and Northwestern University, Chicago, and who has been instructor in the latter school for two years, sailed from San Francisco, January 30, to do medical missionary work at Huchow, East China.

The Baptist Brotherhood banquet was a great success. About 250 men were present. President Gillespie introduced the following speakers: Rev. H. F. Cope, Dr. Behan and Dean Mathews, who gave inspiring addresses. The Chicago Baptist Men's Chorus furnished music.

During the year 1907 Baron Woldemar Uxkull of Russia has collected for the Russian Theological Seminary about $27,000 from all sources in the United States, but is in need of much more to establish the work contemplated. He received hearty co-operation when in Chicago.

Rev. Henry M. Sanders has recently given $75,000 for a new chemical laboratory at Vassar College.

At a recent meeting of the ministers' conference the interests of the Baptist Hospital were presented. The conference voted to appropriate $100 from its treasury to refurnish the conference room at the hospital. There is a present financial deficit of about $15,000, incurred through necessary improvements during the

past three years, and the second Sunday in May has been designated as a time to present this worthy philanthropic work to the churches.

The February meeting of the Chicago Social Union was a union meeting at the Auditorium with the Methodist, the Presbyterian and the Congregational organizations. The speakers and themes were as follows: Dr. Edgar P. Hill of McCormick Theological Seminary, on "Co-operation;" Marion Lawrence, secretary International Sunday School Association, on "Indications which Indicate in the Sunday School World;" Dr. Johnston Myers, on "The Lost Inheritance of the Church;" Bishop W. F. McDowell, on "Enforcement of the Law."

Dr. L. C. Barnes of Worcester, Mass,, has been appointed field secretary of the Home Mission Society to fill the place made vacant by the death of Dr. Cleivers.

Dr. Gilbert Frederick is conducting a school for Christian study and training at the Immanuel Church. The Monday evening course of study is on the nature, mission, works and character of Jesus Christ.

Evangelist Sunday's five week campaign in Bloomington, Ill., resulted in 4,266 conversions. This was surpassed only by the number of conversions at Muscatine, Ia. where 3,579 were converted. The offerings for Mr. Sunday at Bloomington aggregated $7,773. This was surpassed only by Galesburg, where he received $6,400.

A CONFERENCE OF BROTHERHOODS.

A conference of numerous representatives of various brotherhoods and religious organizations of men of several denominations met in Chicago, January 23. Among those present were: C. S. Holt, president of the Presbyterian Brotherhood of America, Chicago; John A. Crawford, secretary of United Presbyterian Men's Movement; Rev. Dr. A. E. Craig, general secretary of Methodist Brotherhood of St. Paul, Columbus, Ohio; Herbert Carleton, general secretary Brotherhood of St. Andrew, Boston; Dr. I. D. Landreth, general secretary Presbyterian Brotherhood of America, Nashville, Tenn.; Mr. W. E. Gillespie, Baptist Brotherhood, Chicago; Rev. Frank Dyer, Congregational Brotherhood, Chicago; Mr. Robert H. Gardner, president Brotherhood of St. Andrew, Boston. After hours of discussion and comparison of notes, the conference adopted the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, All experience in the effective working of men's organizations in the churches indicates the necessity of peculiar emphasis upon the spiritual aspects, life and source in the kingdom; and, whereas, there is always great danger that the ordinary mens' organizations will tend usually toward the opposite direction; therefore,

Resolved, That in informal conference assembled, we of several different lay brotherhoods most emphatically express our conviction that the efficient work for men in the church of the future must be in harmony with the most pronounced personal spirituality, and further that with all brotherly urgency we recommend to our fellow workers everywhere the deepening of the spiritual life as the key to all compelling service.

Resolved, That the committee be instructed to urge upon each brotherhood the importance of inducing its members to undertake personal service in behalf of particular boys needing moral and religious regeneration and help, and that in all places where two or more brotherhoods exist, they be urged to co-operate most closely in carrying on such work through the juvenile courts and otherwise.

The American Tract Society issued, one year, eighty-six new publications, two-thirds of them books. Three were in Benga, two in Bulu, and one in Fang. It is safe to say that not one in a thousand readers will know what these languages are or where they are spoken. They are African languages and the books were printed because the missionaries have given these peoples a knowledge of the alphabet and reading; and a great desire to read has followed. The two Bulu books are the first and only ones in that language, which never had an alphabet or a written word till the missionaries took hold of it. In the centuries to come, these books may become as memorable in African literature as the earliest Anglo-Saxon books are in English literature—who knows? Missions are not only work for the present salvation, but for the larger future, everywhere, of man.

If the Protestant pastors devote themselves wholly to local interests and are contented with that, they will lead a diminishing flock by and bye.—*Home Mission Monthly.*

CHICAGO BAPTIST YOUNG PEOPLE.

F. W. VAN KEUREN, EDITOR.

CHICAGO ASSOCIATION.
William J. Vollmer, President.
John Ruthren, Vice-President.
Wilson L. Kline—Secretary.
J. C. Peebles, Treasurer.

OUR MIDWINTER CONFERENCE.

For a third time the entire Chicago B. Y. P. U. united in a week of conference. The plans this year were larger than heretofore and a greater interest was shown and there was a larger gathering at all the district rallies throughout the entire city associations. At the entire rallies there was an attendance of about 1,800 young people. At the various young people's meetings on Saturday, February 16, there was over 2,200 young people. The series opened with the meeting of the Englewood District on February 11 at the New Normal Park Baptist Church, corner Seventieth and Stewart avenue.

The Fellowship supper was attended by 175 hungry Englewooders. After a few remarks by the president of the district, Mr. William J. Eldredge, words of welcome were given by Rev. Mr. Anderson, pastor of Normal Park Church. Several happy and inspiring remarks were given by Dr. Ford of First Englewood Church, Rev. Peterson, pastor of the Auburn Park Church, Rev. W. B. Moore and Dr. Main.

At 7:45 a song service, led by Mr. Alexander, followed by special musical numbers were rendered. The address of the evening by Rev. William Holloway Main, D. D., on "Enlargement" was delivered to 400 people of the Englewood District. Mrs. Huyck rendered a beautiful organ recital at the close of the address and there were remarks from the city president, W. J. Vollmer.

Wednesday, February 12, a leaders' class, taught by Dr. Main, was held at the Grand Pacific Hotel. The topic was "Our Responsibility."

Thursday, February 13, the South District supper and conference was held at the Calvary Baptist Church. At this supper there were over 350 people present. The officers of this district: Mr. G. Herbert Bell, President; Homer H. Hawley, Vice-President; Harry C. Pratt, Secretary; Edward C. Wilson, Treasurer, were much encouraged and inspired in their work.

The program was as follows:

Mr. R. S. Huddleston, toastmaster, address of welcome.

Mr. D. T. Magill, pastor Calvary Church, "The Power of the Young People in the Home."

Rev. C. E. Boyer, pastor South Chicago Church, "The Power of the Young People in the School."

Rev. O. V. Wheeler, pastor Bethel Church, "The Power of the Young People in the Church."

Rev. R. A. Cameron, pastor Parkside Church, "The Power of the Young People in Business."

Rev. D. M. Hand, pastor West Pullman Church, "The Power of the Young People in Politics."

Rev. J. F. Blodgett, pastor Bethany Church, "The B. Y. P. U. a Power for Christ."

Dr. George Webb, our International Secretary.

The song service at 8:15 p. m. Conference was led by Mr. Leo A. Phillips, social director Central Y. M. C. A.

After which the address of the evening was delivered by Dr. Main.

The North District meeting was held at the Pilgrim Temple Church, Leavitt street near North avenue, Friday, February 14. There was 150 present at the supper and about 300 at the evening service. Mr. R. G. Stronach of the Rogers Park Church is president of this district. Supper was served by the Pilgrim Temple B. Y. P. U.

Dr. John A. Earl was toastmaster.

Words of welcome were given by Dr. James P. Thomas, pastor of Pilgrim Temple Church.

Rev. Ralph W. Hobbs, pastor of the Rogers Park Church, spoke on "Our Local Unions, How Can We Help Them?" and Dr. George T. Webb spoke on "Our National Work."

The evening song service was led by Mr. Harold Watt.

Spripture reading, Rev. W. D. Bancroft, pastor Irving Park Church.

Prayer by Rev. C. F. Tolman, pastor Maplewood Church.

The address of the evening was by Dr. W. H. Main, D. D., on "Enlargement."

Saturday, February 15, the West Side conference was held at the Tabernacle Baptist Church. At 3 p. m. rallies were held under the leadership of the Missionary, Devotional, Membership and Social Departments.

The Junior rally in charge of Miss Edna Crosby was a great success.

Miss Allison is chairman of the missionary committee. Miss Q. Clarke is chairman of the social committee and Miss Hazel Kelly of the membership committee. At 6:30 p. m. an excellent supper was served. Tabernacle Church orchestra rendered the music. At the evening service Dr. Main delighted an audience of 275 persons with his very able address. Mr. E. G. Walter, the president of the district, was

much pleased with the large attendance and interest shown.

Sunday, February 16, the pastors in nearly all the Baptist churches of the city at the morning service preached on the topic "The Christian's Supreme Mission" and at the evening service on the topic "Our Foundation." There was the B. Y. P. U. interchange of leaders.

Monday, February 17, 6 p. m., the Workers' Fellowship supper and reception to Dr. Main was held at the Lakota cafe. This was a big success, over 150 being present. At the Y. M. C. A. building at 7:45 p. m. the big city rally was held, 400 persons present and great enthusiasm. The song service was in charge of Messrs. Excell and Gabriel, followed by the address of the evening by Dr. Main on the topic, "The B. Y. P. U., a School of Character." You missed a treat if you did not hear Dr. Main.

OUR FUTURE EVENTS.

BOAT RIDE	*Be One of Us* *June* 20. Water will do you good.

April 30 *Fellowship Group Supper. Join the group.*

SOUTH DIVISION.

The officers of the South Division wish to extend to you all our heartfelt thanks for the magnificent manner in which you helped them make our supper and conference February 13 the most enthusiastic gathering of Young People that the South Division B. Y. P. U. has ever held.

We earnestly hope that you feel that your evening was well spent, and that you returned to your homes with new enthusiasm for work for the Master, and with the determination to enlarge that work. And now we want you to help us make the remaining work meetings of the year better than those already held; and they have all been splendid. If it is possible we would like to have a representative from every society at each of these meetings.

On Thursday night, April 23 the division will gather at Parkside Church, Seventy-first and Washington avenue. We are planning another splendid treat for you; so keep this date in your mind and mark "engaged" opposite it on your calendar.

Again thanking you for your support in the past and trusting that you will continue it in the future, and assuring you that we are at your service whenever you may feel that we can assist you, we are,

Yours for a larger work,
THE DIVISION OFFICERS.

NORTH DISTRICT B. Y. P. U

The annual mid-winter rally of the North District was held at the Pilgrim Temple Church, North avenue and Leavitt street, on Friday evening, February 14. Supper was served by the Pilgrim Temple B. Y. P. U. previous to the rally to about 100 persons in the pleasant parlors of that church. Dr. John A. Earl, pastor of Belden Avenue Church, served as toastmaster, Dr. Thoms, of Pilgrim Temple, gave the address of welcome, while Rev. Hobbs, of Rogers Park, gave a brief but helpful talk on "Our Local Unions—How Can We Help Them?" Dr. George T. Webb, international secretary B. Y. P. U. A., responded to the toast, "Our National Work." These toasts, interspersed with witty anecdotes and helpful thoughts, were but forerunners of the good things that followed in Dr. Main's address of the evening. In the service that followed, there were gathered representatives from the local unions of the North District to the number of 275 to listen to the helpful words which held the attention of all and gave inspiration for more consecrated service, for a larger undertaking and a strong purpose to work harder for the uplift of His Kingdom on earth.

It is gratifying to note the large attendance throughout the district on B. Y. P. U. night, the total number attending the B. Y. P. U. services in this district being 683.

Very obviously the North District is "enlarging," being second only in point of attendance on B. Y. P. U. night.

The Sabbath School is a religious institution. It is a Bible School, and, in contrast with a common or secular school, is, therefore, decidedly moral and spiritual in its design and endeavor. It is a school in which God's Word as a rule of faith and practice stands supreme and alone as the subject matter of instruction and learning. It is distinctly moral in the character of its leaders and the type of its teaching; the very time of its holding, the Lord's day, denoting the sacredness of its endeavor. It imparts and develops a knowledge of the Holy Scriptures as a revelation of God's will for man's guidance in life and labor. It stands for and sets forth and insists on the principles of righteousness and holiness.—*Ex.*

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE COMMONPLACE.

EDGAR P. HILL.

And Jacob rose up early in the morning and took the stone that he had put for his pillow and set it up for a pillar and poured oil upon the top of it. And he called the name of that place Bethel.—Gen. xxviii. 18, 19.

It is an experience of a lifetime to visit a European cathedral. How dazzling the scene when one emerges from one of the little streets of Venice and the glorious front of old St. Mark's rises before him, with its golden domes and its rich mosaics. With what awe one passes beneath the arches under which Napoleon passed a century ago and Titian four hundred years ago. What a solemn hush comes over the soul as one stands in the darkened interior. "Surely this is the house of God." Do you not think it would be easier to be religious if you could live close to St. Mark's, so that you might slip into it when the burden became too heavy and there talk with God? The first day you might find yourself saying a dozen times, "Surely this is the house of God;" but the second day you would discover a change taking place. You might then notice that your guide, while never neglecting to bend before every altar, would not hesitate to rob you; that the priests who at first seemed so religious were really dirty, and that the atmosphere which before seemed holy was only damp and musty. A traveler never goes a second day to St. Mark's with a Bible, but with a guide-book. He never thinks of praying there after a time or two. The return visits are made to study the mosaics and the carvings.

Where, then, can be found a real house of God—a place of visions, a place where the heart is searched and the soul is uplifted? We are now ready for the text. Picture this scene: Here is a mountain solitude. It is early morning. All is silent. Only rocks and gray bushes and the sky and a glow in the east. One of the rocks turns over. But it is not a rock, it is a man. He rises and proceeds to act very strangely. He takes the stone on which his head had been resting and stands it on end. He packs dirt around it so that it will not fall. Then he takes from his coat a cruse of oil and pours some of the oil on the top of the stone. Then he breaks the silence of the mountain solitude, and this is what he says: "This place shall be called Bethel." Do you know what Bethel means? It means "House of God." Go to Venice and revel in the glories of St. Mark's if you want to study architecture and history. But if you are searching for a real house of God, behold a desert place, and one uncut stone with a little oil upon it, and a solitary worshiper. The other is a cathedral; this is Bethel—a house of God. Surely we have here a striking example of what may be termed "the Transfiguration of the Commonplace"—a stone in a mountain solitude so glorified as to become a house of God.

Just here let me pause long enough to say that Jacob did not see something that was not there. He saw something that was there. He did not imagine things; he saw things. Another man passing that way might have kicked over the stone and said, "What fool did this?" "This, sir, is the house of God."

"House of God, indeed! This is only a stone." And the traveler might have pressed on to the next town to tell his customer of a man he met who had wheels in his head, who talked of a stone being a house of God. Jacob saw what was there. The others were blind and deaf.

One of the severest tests of the true artist is the ability to transfigure the commonplace; not to put into it something that is not there, but to bring out of it something that is there, to draw, as it were, a circle around some bit of scenery or incident so that others may see that the thing to which they did not give a second thought has in it a sublimity which relates it to the stars.

Have you ever tried to use a camera? You were very ambitious. You determined to have a picture you could show with pride to your friends. So you went to the top of the hill, and, arguing that if you took in the whole landscape you would be sure to have all its beauty, you took a picture of a valley. With great eagerness you developed your negative. The valley was there all right, but for some reason the picture was a disappointment. The next day, perhaps, you went to the top of a building; and to make sure that none of the beauty of the city should escape, you took a picture of it all. Again you went into the dark-room, and again you were disappointed. The buildings were all there, but it takes more than buildings to make a fine picture. Then some one came along with a camera no better than yours. He did not go to the top of a hill or a building. He suddenly paused before a tree, fixed his camera, and took a picture. When you saw the picture you exclaimed, "That is a gem!" The artist did not put into his picture something that was not there. He merely saw something that was there. He had the artist's eye and knew how to set an object apart so that others might see its glory.

In the art gallery of our Lewis and Clark Exposition, Oregon, are two pictures marked by many contrasts. The predominating tone of one is a bright red; it is a scene in a Parisian ballroom, just such a scene as most of us would go far to see and would talk about for months afterward. The artist was one of the most distinguished men of the last generation, but the superintendent of the gallery, seemed to attach little value to that picture. "It is an example of the artist's early work," he said apologetically. In another room is a canvas which has no bright colors. It is a scene in the country. In the foreground is a solitary figure, not of a king or a general or a society belle; just a low-browed peasant leaning on a hoe. "This," said the superintendent, "is the most valuable picture in the entire collection. It is insured for $100,000." Millet knew how to draw a circle around a peasant leaning on a hoe, and set him apart,

so by that stunted specimen of humanity others might be reminded of the possibilities of manhood, the lesson of brotherhood, and the real dignity of labor.

No one has looked with a keener eye on commonplace things or recognized more clearly the sublimity that may dwell in them than the poet. He tells us the story of a plowboy, and we realize for the first time that the lad we have been passing heedlessly every day is a hero. He describes a brook that before seemed nothing more than a trout-stream, and suddenly it becomes a river of God. He kneels before a tiny flower, and it becomes a shrine. See yonder duck in the sky. To the hunter it means only a mark to shoot at; but to a Bryant it means infinitely more. It becomes a symbol of faith, an assurance of divine care, a prophecy of eternal rest—

"He who from zone to zone,
Guides through boundless sky thy certain flight,
In the long way that I must tread alone
Will lead my steps aright."

Is there anything more prosaic in all this world than a mouse? But a Burns sees a mouse in a furrow, and a world of tragedy seems to center there. The tiny creature has been rudely thrown from its nest by a plowshare. It is only a mouse such as makes timid people scream and jump up on chairs; but as we look through the poet's eyes the little creature becomes the heroic figure in a vast drama. It had been nestled contentedly in its little home without any thought of impending disaster when suddenly a cruel plowshare cut right through the nest, and the "cowrin' timrous beastie" was flung out into a hostile world. How like the tragedy with which we are all too familiar—a happy, contented home, with no thought of impending danger; then the cruel plowshare of Death cuts through, and helpless, bewildered ones are thrown out into the cold world—

"The best-laid plans of mice and men
Gang aft agley.
And lea'e us nought but grief and pain
For promised joy."

If a mouse is not the most commonplace thing in the world, then what would you say to giving a marsh the place of honor? A marsh, just a wet, muddy, disagreeable, malodorous marsh! The farmer doesn't like it. His first thought is to send for some tiles and drain it. The traveler doesn't like it, because it interferes with his journey. The lover of beauty doesn't like it. He prefers to sit on the seashore or to look at a mountain. A marsh! Who has a kind word to say for a marsh? To rhapsodize over a marsh is about like trying to write a poem on a sewer. But wait. Let a Sidney Lanier sit for a while on the edge of the marsh and watch the tide come in like the bounty of the infinite God flooding the outermost creeks and the low-lying lanes and meshing the marsh with a million veins. Yonder in the rushes he sees the nest of a marsh-hen that a moment before was winging its way through the limitless sky, but is now secure it its resting-place amid the swirling waters of the rising flood.

Let us now for a moment consider the commonplace things that pertain to joy and duty. The artist draws his magic circle around a little cottage, and we see there a glory we did not suspect. The poet draws his circle around a flower and we uplift our hearts in praise and prayer. Who will set apart and glorify the humblest duties and experiences of men in order that we may see that in any station of life where God may place us there may be found joys such as a king might envy and opportunities for service such as angels look for in vain. Here is a young man who is ambitious to enjoy a happy holiday. He thinks if he could only spend a week among the exclusive circles of a great city his cup of joy would run over. Just think of going to a grand dinner in a full-dress suit, sitting down at a table flashing with cut-glass and silver, a dozen knives and forks and spoons at each plate; and the next day to go off on a yacht for a cruise, to lie back on soft cushions and read a novel or play whist or just do nothing. What could be finer than that? If only a person were rich, what rich times he might have! Why, you foolish fellow, don't you really know any better than that? Come with me. No full-dress suit; just a cheap khaki suit. No starched white shirt; just a sweater. No patent leathers; just some plain hobnailed shoes. Let us go into the mountains. Let us pitch our tent near a cool stream, fry our bacon and eggs, drink from a tomato-can, and stretch ourselves at night on some fir boughs. And I will guarantee you such joy as the millionaire with his twelve-course dinner and his yacht never dreamed of. O my friends, what is the matter with us all, that we can never seem to learn that the richest joys this world can give are not to be purchased with money, and were never intended for the few? They are as free as the air, and are within the grasp of even the child of poverty. I am speaking now of the richest joys.

What is it, then, that transfigures commonplace things and gives them a glory which so delights poets and painters and prophets? It is the infinite which they find dwelling in the finite. The water-fowl assumes a new meaning when we discover it is being held aloft by the same hand that holds the stars in their places. The marsh becomes a place of enchantment when the horizon widens until it includes God's universe. A single stone becomes God's house when Jacob says with awe, "Surely the Lord is in this place and I knew it not." And has God come into these poor frail lives of ours that seem like the chaff which the wind drives away? And is there an infiniteness here, a divinity within us, that relates us to Him who inhabiteth eternity, who is from everlasting to everlasting? "In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh." Because God thus glorified flesh, this body of mine seems no longer a piece of clay to be despised. It is the very temple of God. And I, whose earthly years are as a tale that is quickly told, dare look up with utmost confidence and say, "I also as an inhabitant of eternity."

COOK COUNTY W. C. T. U.

MRS. EMILY M. HILL, President. . .

Cook County Women's Christian Temperance Union will hold a week's institute from March 16 to 21, at the Wabash Avenue M. E. Church, Wabash avenue and 14th street. Five programs will be rendered during the week. The county president, Mrs. Emily M. Hill, will preside. The Mothers' Meeting and Moral Education department will consume the time Monday afternoon, March 16; Tuesday, Sunday School Anti-Narcoctics and Scientific Temperance Instruction departments. Miss Marie C. Brehn, vice-president Illinois W. C. T. U., and special lecturer on Scientific Temperance for the permanent committee on temperance of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., will give an address. Mrs. Anna M. Wheeler, State Superintendent of the S. T. I. department will also speak. Wednesday will be Franchise Day with a coterie of noted speakers. Thursday will be under the direction of Dr. Lena Kellog Sadler. Medical Temperance will be considered, and human specimens from the hospitals will be on exhibition to show the scientific effects of alcohol on the vital organs.

Friday will be Law Enforcement Day and Saturday the Loyal Temperance Legion institute. Miss Lulu Monor, state general secretary of the Loyal Temperance Legion will be present and conduct the institute.

Noted evangelical persons will give Bible readings.

All friends of the temperance cause are invited to set apart that week in March for temperance work. Attend and learn the methods of the W. C. T. U. A new union has recently been organized by the county president at Willow Springs, Lyons township. As there is to be a vote in Lyons township on the saloon question at the April election things are waxing hot and everybody is getting stirred up. It is expected a good part of Cook County will go dry.

"The drink of the United States is $1,500,000,000 annually, double the amount spent for bread and ten times the sum devoted to education. As a result of this waste there are in this country 250,000 criminals, 150,000 insane, 5,000,000 idlers and 50,000 tramps; the cost of caring for these is $80,000,000 annually. In Illinois there are 22,000 saloons, 123 breweries and eight distilleries. As a result of these legalized places of vice, either directly or indirectly, our penal institutions, reformatories and insane asylums are crowded to their utmost capacity; thousands of children robbed of home and education and crying for bread. The brothel—which is so closely linked with the saloon—is reeking with the poisonous fumes of the still, holding in its death grasp thousands of our young people.

Who is responsible? Let every voter give answer.

Illinois ranks first as an agricultural state, in meat packing and lumber traffic, ranks second in coal production, and with her splendid educational institutions, her great railroad centers and marts of trade, Illinois is destined to be the first in the union if she becomes a prohibition state. Why not? Her population is over 4,000,000 and now over 2,000,000 of her people are on anti-saloon territory, fourteen counties dry, sixteen counties partially dry, and eighty to be voted on at the spring election. If every man votes right, the entire state can be made prohibition. Then the millions of dollars now pouring into the legalized saloon can be directed into legitimate channels of trade, taxation will be equalized pro rata, starving children fed and housed, the sacred interests of the home more carefully safe-guarded and Illinois will become a commonwealth noted for good citizenship, high morals and revival in wholesome commercialism hitherto unknown in history. The appeal is to the voter; the voter will decide the destiny of thousands at the spring election, a high privilege, a grave responsibility. Vote Dry!

MARY E. KUHL, Chicago.
State President (Ill.) W. C. T. U.

A vicar in England visited a widow, seventy-five years old, who had had ten children, all of whom, except one daughter, had married and left her. Now this daughter also was about to be married, and the clergyman endeavored to sympathize with her. "Well, Mrs. Higgins," he said, "you must feel lonely now after having had so large a family." "Yes sir," she said, "I do feel it lonesome. I've brought up a large family, and here I am living alone. An' I misses 'em an' I wants 'em, but I misses 'em more than I wants 'em.—*The Christian Guardian.*

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If no kindly thought or word
We can give some soul to bless;
If our hands, from hour to hour,
Do no deeds of gentleness;
If to lone and weary ones
We no comfort will impart—
Tho' 'tis summer in the sky
Yet 'tis winter in the heart!

If we strive to lift the gloom
From a dark and burdened life;
If we seek to lull the storm
Of our fallen brother's strife;
If we bid all hate and scorn
From the spirit to depart—
Tho' 'tis winter in the sky
Yet 'tis summer in the heart!

—*Selected.*

GEN. BOOTH ON RELIGION.

That is not a bad summary of religion which General Booth, of the Salvation Army gave in a recent sermon in New York:

"There is a religion which is satisfying. I will call your attention to four features of it. First, a sense of the conscious favor of God. You feel that God loves you, that He holds you in his arms. Second, the consciousnes that He has made you good. If the world pours into your lap all its wealth and honors, you would still be a miserable creature unless you knew that you were good and honest and true and pure. Third, the consciousness that you are doing your duty to the Lord and to those about you. Fourth, the assurance that all is going to be well. There may be difficulties in the way now, but if we have the assurance in our hearts that all will be well in the end it will bring satisfaction. And this satisfying religion you can have without money and without price, on the simple condition that you go right down and submit yourself to Christ, believe in Him and trust in Him."

I wonder why it is that we are not kinder to each other than we are. How much the world needs it! How easily it is done.—*Henry Drummond.*

The man who never makes any mistakes never makes anything. Many chips, broken instruments, cuts and bruises, belong to the history of any beautiful statue. Persist in spite of everything. —*Babcock.*

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TRYING TO REACH INDIVIDUALS.

By Robert E. Speer, A. M.

Dr. Trumbull, was, as a chaplain in the Civil War, as public teacher and Christian worker and editor of the Sunday School *Times*, reached out with great and helpful influence all over the land, was accustomed to say that the best work was not the work done in addressing great throngs or in writing for multitudes to read, but the work done with individuals when one person sat down and talked with another person and tried to lead that other person to the Savior. Just as this is the best and hardest work at home, so it is on the foreign mission field. And there, as here, it is the work by which we enter into the difficulties of others and are able to help them to see a little, at least, of the truth.

"I wish you could see these men as individuals," writes one of the teachers in the Forman Christian College in Lahore, India, "and have your interest in them grow as such. Just come up with me unto our flat roof, and there in the dusk of a summer evening, join quietly in our conversation with Wali Mohammed of the fourth-year class. He has been in the college for four years and has led his class. He is a quiet, discerning, thinking man. In the physics laboratory he will determine the specific heat of copper or find out the focal length of a lens as rapidly and as accurately as anyone in our laboratories at home. So far, he has had the common Indian notion that a man cannot get through college and at the same time give attention to religion and so he has kept pretty closely to his books. But, finally, the daily teaching is having its effect. Hear him say: "Why, this is a new idea to us indians. We have much to say about beliefs, but no one speaks of actually living a life. Yes, the life of Jesus does appeal to me, and I think I have made a mistake in not paying more attention to the religious side in college. Sir, what shall I do now? How can I best get this life that Jesus lived?' And then you realize that you have before you an earnest man just awakening to a sight of a new life, of which India as a whole does not know, and which you yearn that this man might get, so that he, as one of them, might pass it on to others. But here is just where you feel helpless, and you realize that 'no man can come to me except the Father ..... draw him.'"

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